National women's development corporation

991. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to form a National Womens' Development Corporation, if so, what will be the equity participation of the Central and State Governments;

(b) what will be the objectives and sphere of activities of the proposed Corporation; and

(c) whether a special scheme will be devised for the upliftment of rural women and how will Government coordinate various welfare schemes for women at present under the Ministry of Welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) No decision has been taken to form a Nationa Women's Development Corporation. Women's Development Corporations are being set up in the States and Union Territories under the recently announced Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Central Government can invest up to 49 per cent of the equity of each Corporation.

The scope of the new scheme and its objectives are as follows:

1. The Women's Development Corporation envisage taking up projects to generate activities among women such as:

(i) Identification of women entrepreneurs (individuals, cooperatives, associations, etc. etc.)

(ii) preparation of a shelf of viable projects and of providing technical consultancy services;

(iii) Facilitating the availability of credit through banks and other financial institutions through the scheme of margin money assistance;

(iv) promotion of marketing through tie-up arrangements with State level marketing organisations;

(v) promotion and strengthening of women's cooperatives and other organisations; and

(vi) arranging training of beneficiaries in concerned trades, project formulation, financial management through existing institutions such as polytechnics and industrial training institutes.

2. The Corporations would aim at covering directly and in association with other organisations women below the poverty line, particularly women belonging to 'Single Woman' category who are heads of households. Attention would be focussed on the weakest sections of the community. Necessary safeguards would, however, be provided to ensure that the advantages under this scheme are not appropriated by women who are relatively better off or by others by way of benami transactions.

3. The Corporations can take up welfare and development schemes for rural and other women under different Ministries/Departments and would effect coordination.

Relaxation of drug laws to help cancer patients

992. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newspaper report which appeared in the "Hindustan Times" of

3rd April, 1988 to the effect that a World Health Organisation team which toured India recently to evaluate cancer relief programme has urged the Government to relax drug laws to help cancer patients; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Government of India gave permission to the visit of India, by the following two temporary WHO Advisers on Cancer Pain Relief Programme during March, 1988.

(i) Dr. Fumikazu Takada, Saltama, JAPAN.

(ii) Prof. Charies Cleeland, Wisconsin, USA.

They were accompanied by the following experts in Cancer Pain Relief;

(i) Dr. Robert Kalko, Connecticut, USA.

(ii) Mr. George Heidrick, Wisconsin, USA.

The team has not submitted any report to Government so far.

Banning of strikes by teachers and students

993. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions recently from Members of Parliament urging the Central Government to ensure that strikes by teachers students and workers in schools and colleges and other educational instituions must be strictby banned; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Airport at Nariman Point, Bombay

994. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee has been set up to examine the proposal to establish Short Take Off and Landing (STOL) airport at Nariman Point in Bombay in addition to the existing airport; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) On a suggestion that there should be a STOLPORT in Bombay City, the International Airports Authority of India has constituted a Committee of officers of the I.A.A.I., D.G.C.A., Vayudoot, Pawan Hans, etc. to examine the preposition in all its aspects.

Improvement in in-flight kitchen service

995. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps recently to improve its in-flight kitchen services on the IA and AI; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?